

ALL ABLAZE.

(Continued from First Page.)

able, for it had been fastened up to make room for the painters, and there was nothing to prevent the flames from shooting out into the auditorium.

The first alarm, which was sent out from the private box in the business office of the theatre, was received at headquarters at 9.25 A. M.

Four minutes later came a third alarm from the box at Broadway and Third-street, and this was followed by a fourth alarm from the business office, and as soon as Chief Bonner arrived and saw how serious the situation was.

At 11 o'clock the firemen were re-enforced by two more engines from uptown, and the work of saving the buildings in the neighborhood that stood in danger of lighting from flying sparks was vigorously pushed forward.

At 11:40 o'clock there were not less than 50,000 people gathered in the narrow streets that lead to the scene of the fire.

The air was black with the smoke and falling with the tumbles of the burning wood on the first floor of the building 120 and 122 Wooster street, occupied by Bell, Butler & Co.

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side by the fire and the other by the well-hole.

"I shouted to him to hold on for a minute, and then ran across the street to the heavy stable to get a ladder. When I returned a moment later I found him lying unconscious on the stage at the bottom of the well-hole.

"The place where he had been standing was entirely enveloped in flames. I had hardly time to drag him out of the way of the falling clinders and pieces of burning scenery which were dropping down on the stage on all sides.

"A moment more and he could not have been saved, for no one could possibly have reached him.

"The lad was immediately taken in an ambulance to Bellevue Hospital. I do not think he can live, for besides being terribly burned he was crushed and mangled by his fall from the flies.

Manager Abbey a Heavy Loser.

"Do you know what Mr. Abbey's loss will be?"

"I haven't the least idea. He is in San

Francisco and has been telegraphed to. I believe he has the costumes for the opera that are to be produced there in the building, and if so they must be totally destroyed either by fire or water.

The amount of insurance was said this afternoon to have been only \$50,000. This was on the tapestry and stage appliances. The building was supposed to be fireproof and it is not yet known for how much it was insured.

The loss in stage wardrobe is estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Scenery That Was Burned.

The scenery for twenty operas was being prepared by Painter Hoyt and was nearly completed. Among the operas for which the scenery was being prepared were the following:

"Don Giovanni," "Trovatore," "Hugoberto," "Queen of Sheba," "L'Africain," "Hernani," "Fanny," "Hamlet," "Prophete," "Lakme," "Mignon," "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," "Rheingold," "Sigfried," "Gotterdammerung," "Die Walkure," and "Tristan and Isolde."

In addition to these Hoyt had painted scenery for Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," to be presented by Mansfield at this city, and for "The Merchant of Venice," which the Casino is to be opened Sept. 15.

The scenery for the "Scarlet Letter" was especially valuable.

Scenery was also stored in the building for some road plays, among which is the "Plantagenet Daughter."

The boxes in the parterre were burned and water-soaked, and will have to be retrimmed. The boxes were fitted out by the owners. Among the boxes of which the furnishings were totally destroyed were those of Jay Gould, George H. Warren, William C. Whitney, Cyrus W. Field, Jeremiah Milbank, C. N. Curtis, Henry Clays, Austin Corbin, Calvin Brice and Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Rumors That Explosions Occurred.

Jonas Henry, of the Dramatic Mirror, stating that while passing the building at 11:10 o'clock there were two explosions inside the building in quick succession. He says he notified a policeman, but that no investigation was made.

Mr. Stanton, who has been Secretary of the Directors, resigned last May and was succeeded by Mr. McLaren. The latter stated to an Evening World reporter that the insurance would cover the loss on the building. He refused, though, to state the amount of insurance, or the companies in which it is placed.

THE BURNED PLAYHOUSE.

It Cost \$2,100,000 to Build It and Was Thought to Be Fireproof.

The Metropolitan Opera-House was built at an expense of about \$2,100,000 by seventy stockholders, each of whom subscribed \$30,000, and each of whom became the owner of one of the seventy boxes, choice of which was decided by lot.

Besides the investment of \$30,000, stockholders have had to pay an assessment every season amounting to from \$1,500 to \$2,500. When Mr. Abbey got his lease of the opera-house at the end of last season it was made a condition that the assessments should be paid.

During the past nine years many changes have been made in the list of box-holders and stockholders. The most recent list is as follows:

Partner—J. Ogden Goetz.

2. Jay Gould.

3. George Peabody Wetmore, The Misses Ogden, Wednesday; Ely Goddard.

4. George Peabody Wetmore.

5. W. C. Schermerhorn, Monday; W. S. Gurnee, Wednesday; Egerton Whitrop, Friday.

6. Mrs. A. W. Sherman, Wallace C. Andrews, half season.

7. Cyrus W. Field, R. G. Dunn, Wednesday.

8. William C. Whitney, S. C. Harriott, Monday.

9. Mrs. William Astor.

10. Mrs. Osborn.

11. John J. Wesson, Monday; W. Storm Weiss, Wednesday; J. B. Beckman, Friday.

12. Miss Calender, Monday and Friday; Mrs. J. Milburn, Wednesday.

13. George N. Curtis, James A. Bostwick, E. T. Knowlton, Monday.

14. Henry Clays, Monday; W. H. Starbuck, Wednesday; W. H. Isman, Friday.

15. Adrian Iselin, David Stuart, Wednesday.

16. Austin Corbin.

17. William D. Stange, H. McK. Twombly, H. G. Henson, Monday; Clarence Andrews, Wednesday; Robert Goetz, Friday.

18. H. Keckelbacker, Monday and Mate; J. H. Schiff, Wednesday; McCook But, Friday.

19. Robert Goetz.

20. F. G. French, odd performances; Russell Hooley, even performances.

21. Geo. Henry Warren.

22. J. Hood Wright.

23. Geo. Henry Warren, odd performances; J. Augustus Hamilton, Henry T. Sloane, even performances.

24. Elbridge T. Gerry.

25. Luther Knutson, Mrs. Paron Stevens, even performances.

26. E. C. Moffatt, Monday; P. J. Lewis, J. E. Alexandre, Wednesday, Thomas Stokes, Friday.

27. W. Seward Webb.

28. L. J. Lettr, Monday; J. T. Farish, Wednesday; C. C. Fawcett, Friday.

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31. William Rockefeller.

32. Calvin S. Brice.

33. Heber H. Bishop.

34. Cornelius Vanderbilt.

35. George S. Bowdoin.

36. Bradley Martin.

37. The Director.

38. Mrs. Catherine Drexel.

39. George Kemp.

40. George H. Baker, H. C. Fahnestock.

41. Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts.

42. James Harriman.

43. J. C. Barron, M. D.

44. Dr. Jackson, Monday; F. N. Sharon, Friday.

45. H. G. Marquand.

46. Mrs. J. C. Ayer.

47. H. T. Wilson.

48. Walston H. Brown, odd performances; Adrian Iselin, even performances.

49. Robert L. Cutting.

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67. Wm. Rheinelander.

68. Frederic Goodridge.

69. The Opera-House, which is a huge white building occupying the whole block between Thirty-ninth and Fortieth streets, and covers a plot of ground 200 by 200 feet, 40,000 square feet.

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The foyer is 34 by 42 feet, with a parlor connected in such a manner that the foyer can be converted into a concert or lecture room, with the parlor for a stage.

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The opera-house was always said to be thoroughly fire-proof as possible, brick and iron entering almost exclusively into its composition.

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Funeral of Benj. G. Clarke.

The funeral of Benjamin G. Clarke, President of the Thomas Iron Company and a well-known figure in iron and steel business here, was held in Antwerp, Belgium, Aug. 12, was held this morning at his late residence, at 320 Madison avenue.

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24. Elbridge T. Gerry.

25. Luther Knutson, Mrs. Paron Stevens, even performances.

26. E. C. Moffatt, Monday; P. J. Lewis, J. E. Alexandre, Wednesday, Thomas Stokes, Friday.

27. W. Seward Webb.

28. L. J. Lettr, Monday; J. T. Farish, Wednesday; C. C. Fawcett, Friday.

29. William H. Vanderbilt.

30. George De Forest, Monday; Thomas Hitchcock, Wednesday; E. H. Gunther, Friday.

31. William Rockefeller.

32. Calvin S. Brice.

33. Heber H. Bishop.

34. Cornelius Vanderbilt.

35. George S. Bowdoin.

36. Bradley Martin.

37. The Director.

38. Mrs. Catherine Drexel.

39. George Kemp.

40. George H. Baker, H. C. Fahnestock.

41. Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts.

42. James Harriman.

43. J. C. Barron, M. D.

44. Dr. Jackson, Monday; F. N. Sharon, Friday.

45. H. G. Marquand.

46. Mrs. J. C. Ayer.

47. H. T. Wilson.

48. Walston H. Brown, odd performances; Adrian Iselin, even performances.

49. Robert L. Cutting.

50. Miss McEckron, Monday; C. H. Sanford, Wednesday; Addison Cammack, Friday.

51. James A. Roosevelt.

52. James Stillman.

53. D. A. Mills.

54. W. J. Brees.

55. G. W. Jennings, odd performances; G. G. Haven, even performances. John E. Parsons.

56. J. Harport Morgan.

57. Samuel B. Babcock.

58. Edward Cook.

59. Charles Lanier.

60. James Gordon Bennett.

61. W. H. Tillinghast, odd performances; William M. Kingsland, even performances.

62. C. P. Huntington.

63. W. E. Connor, G. P. Morosini, Wednesday.

64. George H. Hill, odd performances; Levi P. Morton, even performances.

65. Adrian Iselin, Jr.

66. F. C. Lawrence, George S. Scott, Wednesday.

67. Wm. Rheinelander.

68. Frederic Goodridge.

69. The Opera-House, which is a huge white building occupying the whole block between Thirty-ninth and Fortieth streets, and covers a plot of ground 200 by 200 feet, 40,000 square feet.

The opera-house is pressed brick, with dressings of terra-cotta, the design being a simple treatment of the Italian Renaissance. There are seventeen entrances from the street, and on Thirty-ninth and Fortieth streets and on Broadway there are large vestibules, with hats and umbrellas, and a large hall.

The foyer is 34 by 42 feet, with a parlor connected in such a manner that the foyer can be converted into a concert or lecture room, with the parlor for a stage.

The auditorium, which is said to be the largest in the world, contains three rows and a half of boxes, 122 in all, with each of which is connected by a private box, the box itself, with its refreshments may be served by waiters and visits received between the acts.

The stage is 90 feet wide, 70 feet deep, and 120 feet high. It also goes some 30 feet below the floor, making the available space about 150 feet.

The opera-house was always said to be thoroughly fire-proof as possible, brick and iron entering almost exclusively into its composition.

It was opened for performances in October, 1883, under the management of Henry Abbey.

Since the first season it has been devoted chiefly to German opera. Many of the Wagner operas have been produced here recently with great splendor and effectiveness. It is also the scene of the great balls each season.

The Metropolitan Opera-House was opened in October, 1883, with a season of Italian opera, under the management of Henry E. Abbey.

The following year the directors decided to inaugurate German opera, under the leadership of Dr. Damrosch, who was succeeded after his death by Anton Seidl.

German opera held the boards here for seven years, such works as "Die Walkure," "Rheingold," "Sigfried," "Die Gotterdammerung," "Tannhauser" and other famous German operas receiving their first introduction in this country.

Mr. Abbey came to the front last year and gave a successful season of French and Italian opera, and last Winter secured a lease of the opera-house for three seasons.

Mr. Abbey made extensive preparations for the coming season, which promised to be the most brilliant in the history of the Metropolitan, and had engaged an exceptionally fine company, besides preparing an immense amount of new scenery and costumes.

Funeral of Benj. G. Clarke.

The funeral of Benjamin G. Clarke, President of the Thomas Iron Company and a well-known figure in iron and steel business here, was held in Antwerp, Belgium, Aug. 12, was held this morning at his late residence, at 320 Madison avenue.

3. George Peabody Wetmore, The Misses Ogden, Wednesday; Ely Goddard.

4. George Peabody Wetmore.

5. W. C. Schermerhorn, Monday; W. S. Gurnee, Wednesday; Egerton Whitrop, Friday.

6. Mrs. A. W. Sherman, Wallace C. Andrews, half season.

7. Cyrus W. Field, R. G. Dunn, Wednesday.

8. William C. Whitney, S. C.